

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 HEW-06

ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 AID-05 /095 W
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R 011024Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3640

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 25293

NESCO

IO/UNESCO PLS PASS TO HEW/USOE FOR LEESMA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, SEDU, UNESCO

SUBJECT: 98 EXBD ITEM 5.2.4 - REGIONAL LITERACY COMMITTEES AND INTERNATIONAL LITERACY COMMITTEE (98 EX/37)

REF: STATE POSITION PAPER 98 EXBD ITEM 5.2.4, 9/12/75

1. THE PX COMMISSION CONSIDERED ITEM 5.2.4 ON SEPT 18. MOST MEMBERS FAVORED OPTION TWO AS BEING MORE FLEXIBLE THAN OPTION ONE. ALTHOUGH THERE WERE SOME RESERVATIONS CONCERNING OPTION TWO, LITTLE ATTENTION WAS PAID TO POSSIBILITIES OF ADDITIONAL OPTIONS.

2. USDEL USED MATERIAL FROM REF POSITION PAPER OPPOSING OPTION ONE AND POINTED TO PITFALLS IN OPTION TWO. IT THEN RECOMMENDED THAT RECOMMENDATIONS OF JOINT UNDP/UNESCO REPORT ON EVALUATION OF PROJECTS CONDUCTED UNDER WORLD EXPERIMENTAL LITERACY PROGRAMME BE ANALYZED AND FORM THE BASIS OF A REPORT TO BE MADE TO THE BOARD AT ITS NEXT MEETING. IT FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT IN MEANTIME MORE PRODUCTIVITY MIGHT BE OBTAINED BY PLACING MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR LITERACY DEVELOPMENT ON MEMBER STATES AND STRENGTHENING EXISTING REGIONAL MECHANISMS WITHIN BUDGET CONSTRAINTS TO SUPPORT NATIONAL EFFORTS.

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3. COMMISSION FAILED TO ARRIVE AT A POSITION ACCEPTABLE TO ALL SO CHAIRMAN (IRAN) DECIDED THAT COMMISSION WOULD REPORT THIS FACT TO THE BOARD. THE FOLLOWING DAY HE CHANGED THAT DECISION AND APPOINTED A SMALL WORKING GROUP. USDEL WAS REPRESENTED.

4. THE WORKING GROUP FINALLY AGREED TO NON-SUPPORT OF OPTIONS ONE AND TWO AS PROPOSED IN 98 EX/37 AND INSTRUCTED SECRETARIAT TO DRAFT A RESOLUTION STATING:

- (A) LITERACY DEVELOPMENT IS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH MEMBER STATE;
- (B) DG SHOULD SOLICIT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MEMBER STATES AS TO WHAT UNESCO'S ROLE SHOULD BE IN LITERACY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION; AND
- (C) DG SHOULD STRENGTHEN SUPPORT CAPABILITIES OF EXISTING MECHANISMS, I.E. REGIONAL OFFICES, ASFEC, CREFAL, AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ADULT LITERACY METHODS, WITHIN BUDGET CONSTRAINTS TO BETTER SERVE MEMBER STATES.

5. WORKING GROUP REVIEWED DRAFT WRITTEN BY SECRETARIAT ON SEPT 23 AND MADE MINOR CHANGES. OPERATIVE PORTION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION FOLLOWS:

"AUTHORIZES THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL:

- (A) TO IMPLEMENT WITH ALL THE FLEXIBILITY DESIRABLE AND WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE BUDGETARY PROVISIONS OF DOCUMENT 18 C/5 APPROVED, THE OBJECTIVES OF RESOLUTION 1.252 (A) (III) ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AT ITS EIGHTEENTH SESSION BY PROMOTING ACTIVITIES WHICH COULD FACILITATE THE STUDY AT REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL OF THE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN ORDER TO SOLVE PROBLEMS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE MEMBER STATES CONCERNED, NAMELY BY ORGANIZING MEETINGS OF EXPERTS AND THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR EDUCATION AND LITERACY POLICIES, AND BY ENCOURAGING THE EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION IN THIS FIELD. RE COURSE TO PROMINENT FIGURES, WHOSE OPINION AND ACTIVITIES MIGHT BE OF PARTICULAR SERVICE TO THE CAUSE OF LITERACY

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FROM A FINANCIAL OR POLITICAL STANDPOINT, MAY BE SOUGHT AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, EITHER INDIVIDUALLY OR WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS.

- (B) TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ENABLE UNESCO, BY ALL APPROPRIATE MEANS, TO PUBLICIZE AND ENCOURAGE THESE EXCHANGES OF EXPERIENCE, WHETHER THEY INVOLVE THE LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE WORLD

EXPERIMENTAL LITERACY PROGRAMME OR THE RESULTS

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OBTAINED IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES INDEPENDENTLY OF THIS EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAMME;
(C) TO MAKE FULL USE, IN CONDUCTING THESE ACTIVITIES , OF THE EXISTING INFRA-STRUCTURE, PARTICULARLY THE REGIONAL OFFICES FOR EDUCATION, THE REGIONAL CENTRE FOR FUNCTIONAL LITERACY IN RURAL AREAS IN LATIN AMERICA (CREFAL), AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ADULT LITERACY METHODS, INCREASING , IF POSSIBLE, THE RESOURCES AT THEIR DISPOSAL;
(D) AS CONCERNS EXCHANGES AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD OF LITERACY, TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION AND THE OTHER AGENCIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM CONCERNED WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF LITERACY INTEGRATED WITH DEVELOPMENT;
(E) TO CONSULT THE MEMBER STATES, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, ESPECIALLY THROUGH THE REGIONAL OFFICES FOR EDUCATION, AS TO THE MOST APPROPRIATE WAYS AND MEANS OF ENCOURAGING, IN EACH INDIVIDUAL REGION AND ON A WORLD-WIDE SCALE, CO-OPERATION, EXCHANGES OF EXPERIENCE AND THE ANALYSIS OF PROBLEMS, MORE SPECIFICALLY CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE NATURE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE

INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL STRUCTURE REFERRED
TO IN PARA 2 OF THIS RESOLUTION;
(F) TO INCLUDE IN DOCUMENTS 19 C/4 AND 19 C/5 ANY
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PROPOSALS WHICH MAY EMERGE FROM THIS CONSULTA-
TION, IN ORDER THAT THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MAY
EXAMINE THEM AT ITS 99TH SESSION."

6. USDEL FELT MAJOR US POINTS HAD BEEN WON, I.E.:
 - (A) OPTIONS ONE AND TWO HAD BEEN ELIMINATED;
 - (B) LESSONS LEARNED FROM WORLD EXPERIMENTAL LITERACY PROGRAM WERE TO BE CONSIDERED;
 - (C) MEMBER STATES WERE TO BE CONSULTED;
 - (D) EXISTING FIELD MECHANISMS WERE TO BE UTILIZED.

7. HOWEVER, USDEL FELT THAT LAST SENTENCE IN PARA 6A OPENED DOOR TO POSSIBILITY OF OPTION TWO OF 98 EX/37. IT ALSO FELT SPECIFIC REFERENCE SHOULD BE MADE IN PARA 6B TO JOINT UNDP-UNESCO REPORT ON EVALUATION.

8. DR WAS SUBMITTED TO PX COMMISSION LATE AFTERNOON SEPT 23. BRAZIL MOVED IMMEDIATELY TO APPROVE RESOLUTION. USDEL OFFERED AMENDMENT TO ELIMINATE AFOREMENTIONED SENTENCE IN PARA 6A AND ADD AFOREMENTIONED REFERENCE TO PARA 6B.

9. CHAIRMAN STATED THAT GENERAL REFERENCE TO "LESSONS LEARNED" IN PARA 6B WOULD INCLUDE JOINT UNDP-UNESCO REPORT, BUT BECAUSE IT WAS NOT YET PUBLISHED HE WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO ADD IT TO DRAFT RESOLUTION. HE FURTHER STATED IN REFERENCE TO LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 6A THAT SUCH EXPERTS INDIVIDUALLY OR IN MEETINGS WOULD BE USED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PRECEDING SENTENCE, I.E., TO SOLVE PROBLEMS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO MEMBER STATES. UPON HIS REQUEST USDEL THEN WITHDREW THE AMENDMENT. CHAIRMAN THEN DECLARED THE DR PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. IF VOTE HAD BEEN TAKEN, IN SPITE OF ASSURANCES BY CHAIRMAN, USDEL WOULD HAVE ABSTAINED ON PRINCIPLE. HOWEVER, ON THE WHOLE, USDEL SATISFIED WITH REVISED DRAFT RESOLUTION.

10. ANY ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE WOULD BE WELCOMED.

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